

# Injured Cyclist Clings to Life

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## Torrance Herald

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# 'CRASH PILOT' SLAYS MATE

## 10-Year-Old Leaves Home Seeking Help

A 44-year-old aircraft company electronics engineer, who denied conjecture that he had tried to crash his airplane into the Torrance home of his estranged wife three years ago, shot and killed his second wife Wednesday night in their Lomita home and then turned the gun on himself and sent a bullet crashing through his head.

Aubrey L. Devenish and his wife, Joan, 34, were found by a neighbor in the bedroom of their home at 24739 Pennsylvania Ave., after 10-year-old Quicke Chaney, Mrs. Devenish's daughter by a previous marriage, ran from the home calling for help. They were dead on the arrival of Sheriff's deputies.

"Daddy's killing my mommy, please help me," the 10-year-old girl screamed as she ran from the house.

NEIGHBORS rushing out to check on the child reported hearing an argument which ended with gunshots. Sheriff's investigators said Mrs. Devenish had apparently accused her husband of infidelities with his former wife. She and her daughter moved from the Pennsylvania Avenue home late in July, but had moved back last Monday in an effort to effect a reconciliation.

It was on May 1, 1959, that a plane piloted by Devenish crashed adjacent to the Torrance home of his estranged first wife.

ALLEGATIONS that he had deliberately tried to crash the craft into her home were stoutly denied by Devenish. He told investigators at that time that something had broken the windshield of his Ecroupe.

He admitted to police after the crash that he had left the home of his estranged wife after an argument about property.

## Two Local Plants Vote On Bridges

To organize or not remained a question at two major industrial plants at weekend—and the only choices remaining included joining Harry Bridges International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, or staying out of organized labor.

Balloting at the Union Carbide and Chemicals plant here this week which offered workers four choices ended in a stalemate, and a runoff election will be set up at the plant probably during the week beginning Aug. 20.

WORKERS AT the Torrance plant were offered four choices: affiliating with the Metals Trades Council, the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers Union, the International Longshoremen's Union, or remaining unaffiliated.

In a tally of the votes cast under the auspices of the National Labor Relations Board, the workers at UCC gave nearly equal preference to remaining unaffiliated and joining Bridges' ILWU. Lesser numbers voted to join the other two unions.

A RUNOFF election between ILWU and remaining unaffiliated will be held for the company property.  
(Continued on Page 2)

## Hospital Nurses' Home Demolished

By JERRY REYNOLDS  
Herald Staff Writer

Patients at Torrance Memorial Hospital have seen a few wet eyes for the last week.

Many of the nurses at the hospital have let a few tears slip down their faces since the wrecking crew moved its heavy bulldozers in and began demolishing the old nurses' home.

Memories are all that are left of the 35-year-old building which served for many years

as a home for nurses, meeting room, and administrator's office. The wrecker completed its work Friday, and all that remains is a pile of rubble.

BUILT IN 1927, the nurses' home provided rooms for the hospital superintendent and nursing staff. It also served as a meeting place for the various committees, the hospital's directors, and the medical staff.

The annual hospital Christmas party, halloween parties, and numerous nurses parties have been held there through the years. Mrs. Viola Hendricks, director of nursing, re-

calls the spider web parties the nurses held. After weaving strings throughout the home, the nurses would pick up a loose end and follow it under rugs, through keyholes, and over furniture to claim a prize.

THE SEWING circle organized by the late Minnie Brooks, and teas held by former superintendent, Mrs. E. J. Maxwell, also provided many pleasant memories.

The familiar landmark bows to the growth of Torrance and its first hospital. The home, along with the old Nativity Parish Hall, is being torn down to make way for a new parking lot.

THE LAST resident of the home, Miss Bernice Giddings, central supply supervisor at the hospital, moved out early last spring. Since then, the empty building has been the subject of many informal discussions.

The hospital halls have been full of talk this week, but not about the usual Dr. Ben Casey—the nurses are reminiscing about their days in the old home.

## Cyclist Near Death After Street Crash

A Gardena motorcyclist who received critical injuries including a slashed throat in an accident here Friday morning clung to life yesterday afternoon at Harbor General Hospital where officials said his condition remained critical and generally unchanged. He was conscious, attendants said.

The victim, Leroy A. Wyman, 21, was injured about 9:45 a.m. Friday when his motorcycle and a truck collided at 180th and Western Avenue.

Wyman's head was driven through a window of the truck by the impact, investigating officers said. The glass cut the victim's neck and throat, and officers arriving at the scene feared Wyman was dead from loss of blood.

Driver of the truck was identified as Peter David, 77, of Los Angeles. Wyman was in surgery for several hours Friday following the collision, and was placed in an intensive care unit Saturday.

THREE YOUTHS suffered minor cuts and injuries when their light foreign sedan spun out of control on a curve at Calle Miramar and Paseo de la Playa Thursday about 4:30 p.m. The driver of the car, William Albert Baker, 18, of 121 Via Pasqual, lost control of the car on the turn. The car rolled over several times and came to rest on its side. The wheels of the car were against a trailer parked on a construction site at the corner.

PASSENGERS Otto Ledford Jr., 20, of 5120 Calle de Arboles, and Michael Warren Elliott, 17, of 2524 Via Anita, Palos Verdes, were taken to South Bay Hospital along with Baker.

All three youths were released after treatment for minor cuts and bruises.

Blind Writer to Address Lions  
Jack Whiffen of the Braille Institute will be the guest speaker at the South Torrance Lions Club on Wednesday. Whiffen will speak on "Six Roads to Happiness."

Partially blind, Whiffen is a writer, poet, and humorist. He is also a square dancer. In his speech, Whiffen will explain the six services offered to the blind and partially blind by the Braille Institute.

At their last meeting, the Trustees suggested a simple, steel, well-caged overpass which would cost in the vicinity of \$30,000. The overpass would help combat an expected increase in traffic along Crenshaw when the San Diego Freeway opened.

There will be a public hearing before the Trustees pass judgment on the budget, which with undistributed reserves, comes to \$15,652,483.

Also under construction by the Board will be attendance boundary changes for the 1962-63 school year.

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FIGURES WERE cited at the meeting which indicate more



VICTIM AIDED . . . Officers and ambulance attendants lifted 21-year-old Leroy A. Wyman to an ambulance stretcher following a collision between his motorcycle and a vehicle at 180th Street and Western Avenue Friday morning. The victim was in surgery most of Friday and was placed in an intensive care unit at Harbor General Hospital where his condition was described as "critical . . . generally unchanged," yesterday afternoon.

## Board to Discuss New Attendance Limits

Adoption of the proposed \$13,740,223 school budget will come at Monday night's Board of Education meeting which gets under way at 7:30.

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than 90 per cent of the students attending Crenshaw Elementary School will soon have to cross a six-lane highway.

Immediately after the trustee's decision to erect the overpass, the City Council voted to pay its share of the expensive. The two city groups are collectively looking for county and state aid on the project.

## A Penny for your Thoughts

"What do you like most about the Rancho Days celebration this year?"

John Stapleton, 3723 W. 224th St.

"I think my favorite is the rodeo because of the fun and excitement. I like the carnival, too, and my favorite ride is the twister. This is my third year, and maybe I'll even win some prizes this time."



Dennis O'Dowd, 3703 W. 227th St.

"The rodeo is my favorite. It is the most interesting part of the event. I like the parade, and then the rides next. The twister is the most fun to ride. I'll be here every day if I can make it."

Susan Burnop, 18503 Falda Ave.

"Mostly the rodeo because I like horses very much. I don't own a horse but I do ride quite often. The rodeo is also very dangerous, and the cowboys are expert riders. I try to see it every year."

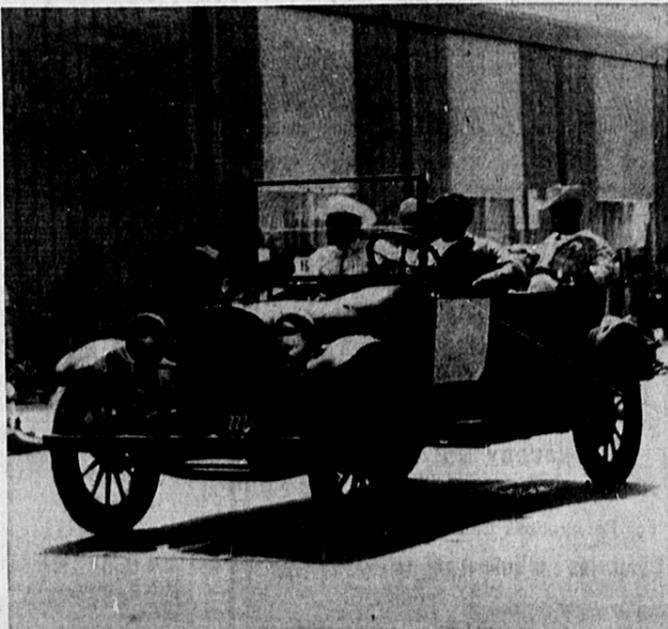


Al Chavez, 725 Centinela Ave., Inglewood:

"Like everyone, I suppose, I like the rodeo. I like to see the cowboys bucked off a steer or a good bronc. My grandchildren are here, and they enjoy the rides most."

Diana Willoughby, 24513 S. Western Ave., Rancho Days Queen:

"I think the people are the best part. There are hundreds of friendly people here. As for the event itself, I like the rodeo. It is all a lot of fun."



OLD CAR AND BEARDS . . . One of the units in the annual Rancho Parade that moved through the city yesterday was this old car full of contestants in the Rancho Days beard growing contest. About 30,000 people saw the parade. Judging in the beard contest took place late yesterday afternoon.  
(Herald Photo)

**PUNJABS**  
By gumparty

A HEARSE OF ANOTHER COLOR

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